

# Atiyeh launches 'Company's Coming' Page 5

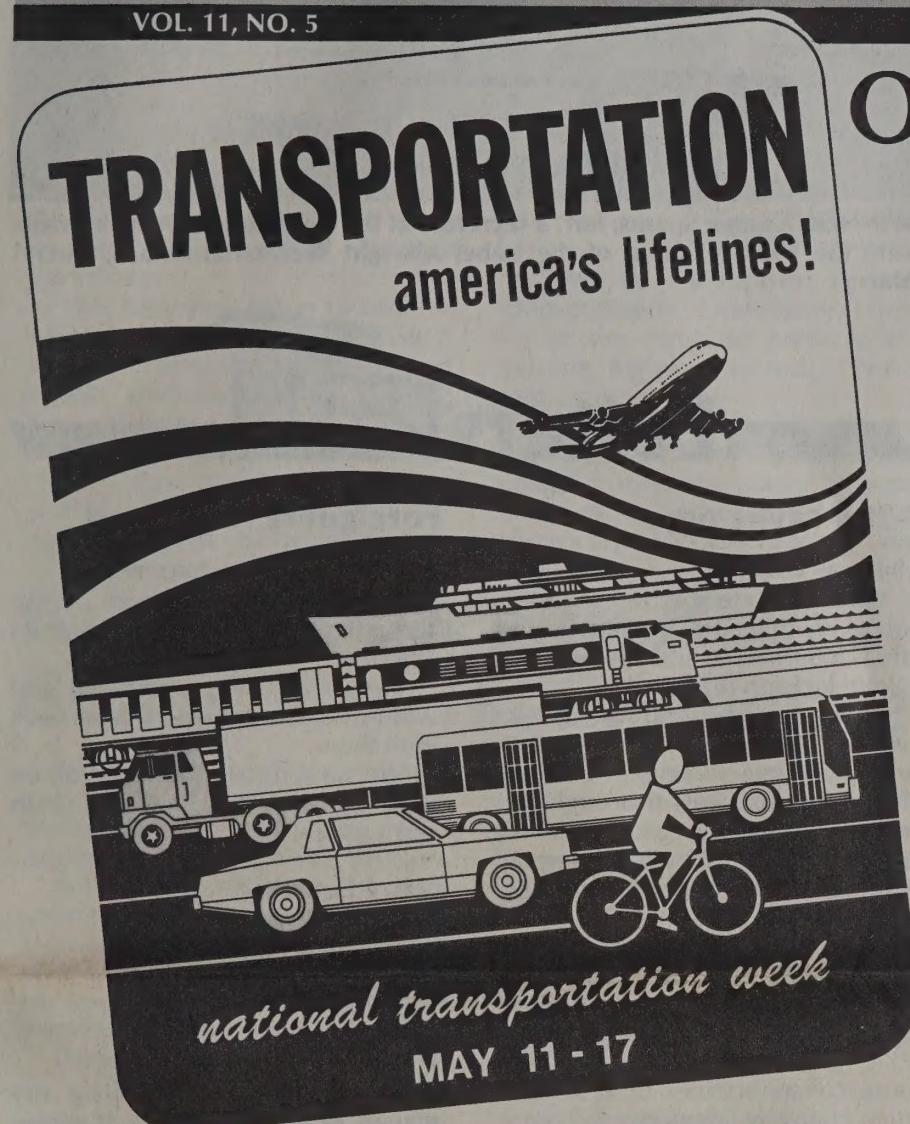
NEWS

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION LIBRARY

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

VOL. 11, NO. 5

MAY 1986



**Contributions \$4,000 above goal**

## Scholars fund goes over the top

For the second straight year, ODOT employees have surpassed their goal in the Glenn Jackson Scholars Fund Drive, according to Gary Potter, chairman.

With a few reports still incomplete at VIA press time, Pot-

ter said employees had contributed \$33,639. The goal for 1986 was \$30,000.

"This is just a great show of support for the Glenn Jackson Scholars program," Potter said. "I wish I could shake hands with every

employee who donated to the fund, and I know Fred Miller feels the same way."

Potter said 38 percent of ODOT employees contributed during the six-week fund drive. In addition, retirees sent in checks totalling \$1,260.

"This tells me that employees are basically satisfied with the progress we're making with the scholars program," Potter said.

Potter said he had heard some complaints that the three-year service in ODOT rule is too restrictive. At present parents must have worked for the department for 36 months in order for their children to qualify as scholarship applicants.

"We're not going to move the goal posts every year," Potter said, "but we do want the program to fit employees' wishes."

He said the issue will be presented to the Jackson Scholars Committee for consideration.

Continued...Page 5

## Albright secretary award goes to Sparks on 3rd try

For Connie Sparks, the third time was the charm: She won the 1986 Isabel Albright Secretarial Award, after losing out two previous years.

A secretary with the Aeronautics Division for the last seven years, she received a three-day trip to Chicago to attend a training seminar as her prize.

Sparks challenged other nominees to keep on trying to improve themselves. "This is an honor worth

working for," she said.

In attendance at the luncheon were her parents, Marvin and Darlene Schirman of Salem, and her husband, Tim.

Over 130 ODOT employees and guests attended the luncheon, which is held annually in honor of Isabel Albright, a 30-year employee with the Highway Division. She retired in 1984 and is living in New Mexico. See photo ...Page 2

National Transportation Week and invite people to visit local displays.

The annual National Transportation Week 10K running challenge will be handled differently this year. Rather than having all ODOT runners participate in a single event, runners will be encouraged to enter any certified 10K race in their area around the middle of May.

Runners will submit their results to race coordinators Vern Hahn and Eb Engleman in Salem. They will enter the best times in competition with transportation employees in other states.

Salem employees have been invited to run or walk in a one- and two-mile fun run from the Transportation Building at noon on May 16. The event is designed to raise funds for the Jackson Scholars.

Employees at the headquarters building will be treated to a noon concert May 13 on the front steps by members of the Judson Middle School band.

## ODOT observes NTW

### Employees staff displays, demonstrate equipment

Many ODOT employees will help tell Oregonians that it's National Transportation Week May 11-17.

Employees staff informational displays and demonstrate new technology at locations throughout the state. Most regions take displays and equipment to major shopping centers.

Large signs at each location will welcome people to the display and explain the six ODOT divisions, according to Bob Gormsen, who chairs the statewide planning committee.

Some regions exhibit models of local construction projects, and many show modern and antique highway equipment side-by-side. At some locations, other transportation- and vehicle safety-related organizations also offer information.

The Public Affairs Office will produce television and radio announcements to promote



OVER THE TOP--Gary Potter, who chaired the Jackson Scholars fund drive, posts final figures for the campaign, which went well over the \$30,000 goal.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE...

**PAGE 3** The Highway Division is pleased with grades on its first "report card."

**PAGE 4** Twelve finalists have been selected in Highway's 3-E award program.

**PAGE 5** Oregon is well represented in a national transportation research study.

**PAGE 8** Candid Comments: Do you feel the public understands the importance of transportation in society?

## A message from the director ...

The high point for me this past month has been watching our department raise funds for the Glenn Jackson Scholars program. This is such a unique, positive program. The enthusiasm for it is contagious. I really believe that no other department in state government could put together and support such an effort.

The commitment of so many people for a good cause is rewarding. For the second year, we have achieved our fund-raising goal by a significant margin.



We should all have respect and appreciation for the coordinators of the fund-raising drive. Gary Potter, who headed up the campaign, has continued to provide his organizational skills and his positive approach. Appropriately, he gives lots of credit to division coordinators.

You should all give a thank you to Randy Fraser, Motor Vehicles; Steve Johansen, Parks; Bob Pool, Highway; Bob Rainey, Central Services/Public Transit; and Linda Stringer, Aeronautics. Ralph Sippell was again kind enough to serve as coordinator for the retirees. They have done outstanding work.

Worthy of special mention is the department's bowling tournament, which was initiated and implemented by Brenda and Bob Trump. It was a memorable event and something that should be continued for years to come. We had 240 bowlers involved in two flights of spirited competition. Besides the fun and good feelings, it raised approximately \$1,500 for the Glenn Jackson Scholars.

Last year's scholars, Kristi Helman and Ruth Schmidt, are having excellent years at Oregon State University. They will be working for us again this summer.

I am looking forward to the selection of two more outstanding scholars in May.

### SECRETARIAL AWARD LUNCHEON

In April, we recognized the value of secretaries to our organization during National Secretaries Week. While I hope that we do this all of the time, we give special attention at the Isabel Albright Secretarial Award Luncheon.

We had an outstanding group of nominees for the award and the luncheon, which honored all secretaries in the department.

Besides the honor of being selected, the winner of this year's award will receive an all-expense-paid trip to a seminar titled "The Professional Woman Manager." All of the finalists will be able to attend a seminar on "Leadership Skills for Women" in Portland.

### ODOT CHOSEN FOR CHILD CARE SURVEY

Chemeketa Community College received a grant for improving child care in Salem. The data demonstrate that significant improvements could be made. The Department of Transportation was selected as one of four organizations to participate in a pilot program financed by this grant. We are the only state agency.

This does not mean that we will be involved in establishing a day care center. We will be participating in a survey to analyze the characteristics and needs of our Salem-area employees. It will be interesting to see the results and to determine whether we are representative of the population at large.

Too frequently, child care is seen as a woman's problem or a problem which has only one solution--a day care center. The Chemeketa grant is pointing out that child care is really a family problem and one which has a variety of solutions, many of which are relatively low in cost.

*Fred Miller*



WINNER--Connie Sparks, left, a secretary at the Aeronautics Division, visits with the 1985 recipient of the Isabel Albright Secretarial Award, Cheryl Maerz.

## Letters

### I-205 saves time

Highway Division:

I congratulate you on the superb job of planning and engineering on the I-205 freeway and the beautiful Glenn Jackson bridge.

They are a godsend for those of us who live in east Clark County and Skamania County. Access to the major east-west thoroughfares in Portland is just great. Our driving time to Oregon City has been cut from an hour to about 20 minutes.

Reuben Bafus  
Camas, WA

### Flood action praised

Larry Rulien  
State Highway Engineer:

We commend C.D. Hiatt (Dist. 14 maintenance supervisor, Ontario) for preventing record flood waters of the Owyhee River from inundating Owyhee Corners and nearby farm land.

He, his equipment and crew, with Malheur County highway forces, worked from the morning of Feb. 24 through the night until noon of the 25th.

The supervision was not only excellent, but the equipment operators were journeymen at their jobs.

J.W. McEwen  
Payette, ID

### 'Money well spent'

Fred Miller  
ODOT Director:

Quick. Send someone to Mississippi and find out where they get their money.

Not only do they have good freeways, but their rest areas make Oregon look like the dark ages.

We stopped at a tourist center--a beautiful, red stone building furnished like a home. We were offered free refreshments by two very gracious hostesses.

I only wish that someone could enter Oregon's information centers and leave with the feeling I did in Mississippi. I believe it's money well spent.

Gayla Cavaliere  
Retired ODOT employee, Salem

### Foreigners impressed

Transportation Department:

We just returned from a trip through your state with guests from Sweden.

They were very impressed and want a highway map to take back with them.

We want to congratulate you on your highways, medians and clean rest areas.

Mrs. E.D. Barker  
Edmonds, WA

### Glasses returned

Park manager  
Hat Rock State Park:

Thank you for sending my glasses to me last month. It shows how much you value your work and how much pride you have in it.

I was really happy to get my glasses back. I was proud to be in America.

Myong Kyun Shin  
Albany

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mike Merryman, park ranger 1, found the glasses and returned them.



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# First public 'report card' pleases Highway

The Highway Division didn't get all A's on its first report card, but officials are pleased with results, nevertheless.

More than 420 Oregonians returned surveys to the division after attending one of 18 public meetings this spring to discuss the Six-Year Highway Improvement Program. Those attending were asked to rate 10 Highway issues or activities as "good," "fair" or "poor."

"One of the most positive aspects of the survey was that many citizens were surprised and glad that we asked them what they thought," said Program Manager Gary Potter.

"We have just begun to use this survey in shaping division policies," he said. "We expect to use this and similar instruments for guiding future decisions."

Even the issue drawing the most "poor" responses gave good information to the division. Twenty-eight percent of respondents

marked "smoothness of ride on state highways" as "poor."

selected 43 percent of the time."

Oregonians rate roadside and employee services highly.

<b>Highway Report Card</b>			
	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
1. How do you rate Highway services such as rest areas, logos and directional signing?	70%	21%	4%
2. Quality of service from Hwy. employees	53%	31%	6%
<b>RESPONSE ON ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>14%</b>

"This shows support for the Transportation Commission's policy to use funds to preserve the existing highway system," Potter said.

Overall, Potter said the survey indicates the division has a positive image around the state. "A summary of responses on all items shows the 'good' rating was

logos and directional signing. Brush and grass control along highways was rated "good" by 56 percent.

Quality of service from Highway employees was rated "good" by 53 percent, and only six percent ranked it as "poor."

Issues receiving the most "poor" responses included: overall maintenance of state highways, 20 percent; value received for Oregon road user tax dollars, 20 percent; and overall satisfaction with the Oregon highway system, 14 percent.

Almost 1,500 people attended the 18 meetings, a significant increase from the 940 who came to similar events two years ago. The meetings are held throughout the state to gather comments on the six-year plan that prioritizes Highway projects for a six-year period.

## Kuehn moves to Reg. 1, Sullivan to maintenance

Jack Sullivan has been named maintenance engineer, and Rick Kuehn has been selected Region 1 engineer for the Highway Division.

Sullivan, 47, fills the position vacated by the recent promotion of Don Adams to assistant state highway engineer. Sullivan has held various ODOT positions in his 19-year career.

During his first 10 years, he

worked as a transportation analyst and urban studies coordinator dealing with transportation planning for Salem and Portland metropolitan areas.

In 1977 he was named specifications engineer, and since 1983, he has served as Materials Section engineer.

He said he sought the new position because it fit his areas of background and experience, such as materials and budgeting.

He will begin his new duties the middle of this month.

He and his wife, Linda, have two teenage children. They live in Salem in a home that Sullivan designed and constructed. He is active in adult and youth sports. Other hobbies include writing and computer programming.

### Kuehn to Region 1

Kuehn, 42, also will start in his new position later this month. He will be oriented to the new job by Ed Hardt, current Region 1 engineer, who will retire in June.

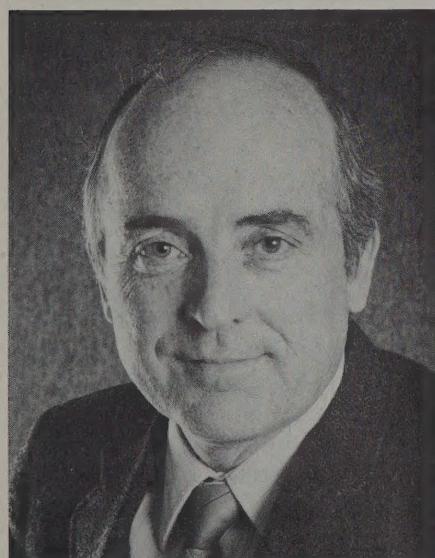
Kuehn is going back where he started with the division. He worked two summers during college as an engineering trainee in the Region 1 office.

After graduation from OSU in 1965, he was hired as a traffic investigator. From 1970-76, he served as Region 2 traffic engineer, and for the following six years as District 3 maintenance supervisor.

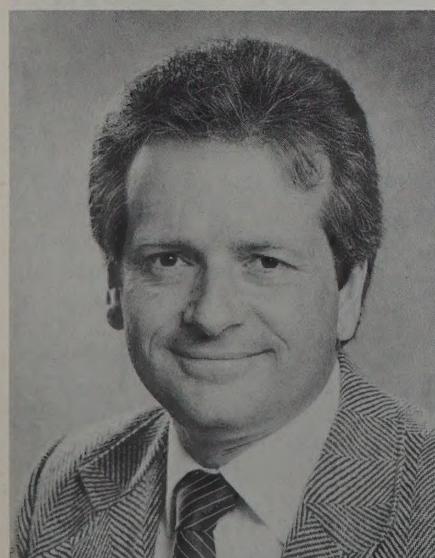
In early 1984, he was named preliminary design engineer, and later that year he was promoted to final design engineer. He has completed several special assignments during his career and served on many task forces.

He said he is looking forward to "the tremendous growth opportunities" of the new position.

He plans to commute from his home in Keizer that he shares with his wife, Barbara, and two teenagers. Kuehn's hobbies include old cars and Keizer Little League.



Jack Sullivan



Rick Kuehn

## News briefs



### Odometer law slows DMV processing

Motorists who forget to provide information on odometer readings when they renew registrations are slowing processing time for DMV staff.

Many Oregonians may not get registration plates renewed before the old tags on their cars expire, or they may have to make two trips to a DMV counter to retrieve the information. The odometer law took effect Jan. 1, and requires mileage reporting for registration and titling.

### Wolf Creek Tavern reopens

The historic Wolf Creek Tavern and Inn, 20 miles north of Grants Pass just off I-5, has reopened for business.

Joy and Sam Angelos are operating the facility for the Parks Division. The inn was originally constructed in the late 1800s as a stage stop between Sacramento and Portland.



### Governor recognizes ODOT employees

Highway and Parks employees in Clatsop and Columbia counties received awards for outstanding work from Gov. Vic Atiyeh in late March.

Those honored were: Eldon Everton, Dist. 1 maintenance supervisor; Dennis O'Conner, assistant maintenance section supervisor; Norman Doney, highway maintenance worker; and John Kerwin, park ranger.

### Managers reminded of nepotism policy

Department managers and supervisors were reminded last month that preferential selection practices based on family relationships rather than merit are prohibited by an administrative rule.

Karen Roach, asst. director Personnel Branch, sent the reminder along with a copy of the state's nepotism policy. "Discrimination in favor of candidates who are related to persons involved in, or who have an effective influence on, the selection process is prohibited," she noted.

### Parks campgrounds ready for visitors

Most Parks campgrounds opened April 18, except for a few at higher elevations.

Although not required, reservations can be made at 13 overnight campgrounds between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. Check availability by calling 1-800-452-5687. Campsite prices remain the same this summer as last.



### Crews win Parks Safe-Driving Awards

Parks has announced winners of the third annual Safe-Driving Awards for district crews.

Winners, in order of region, include: Rooster Rock Park Dist.; South Beach Park Dist.; Bullards Beach Park Dist.; Deschutes Park Dist.; and tied in Region 5, Catherine Creek and Clyde Holliday park districts.

# Twelve vie for Highway's Coulter award

A bronze likeness of H. Scott Coulter has been cast as the centerpiece of a memorial plaque named for the late state highway engineer.

The plaque, which will be permanently mounted on a wall in the Oregon Transportation Commission meeting room, will record the

## 3-E plaque features sculpture

"It's hard to know when to quit," said sculptor Terry Kramer, who constructed a low-relief sculpture of H. Scott



**COULTER SCULPTOR**--Salem sculptor Terry Kramer adds final details to a clay model used to prepare a brass likeness of Scott Coulter for the 3-E plaque. At right, the finished casting.

Coulter for the 3-E award plaque.

Kramer labored about 40 hours before making a wax mold to be cast in bronze. He said it was a particular challenge to create a three-dimensional sculpture working only from photographs of Coulter.

"It's difficult to tell dimensions of jaws and forehead from a picture. You have to experiment with depth and volume," he said. Kramer studied several photos and gave special attention to one preferred by Coulter's wife, Martha. He then drew sketches before beginning a clay model.

He worked a lot on the mouth and cheeks "due to the changeable expressions on his face. You want to make the piece come alive, to have energy."



## Policy helps many snuff smoking habit

ODOT sponsorship of smoking cessation classes "was just the impetus needed for many people to decide to stop smoking," said Dave White, safety manager.

In February, the department announced that ODOT would pay for employees to complete stop-smoking programs approved by the department.

"There has been widespread

support for this policy," White said. He has received many requests for reimbursement for smoking cessation courses statewide.

More than 40 employees regularly attended a program in Salem during March and April. The Seventh Day Adventist program received good evaluations from participants, and most recommended that ODOT hold the class

annual winners of the H. Scott Coulter Award for Excellence.

Names of the winners and the years they won will be engraved on brass plates on the lower part of the plaque. A small replica of the plaque will be presented to the Coulter award winner each year.

Runnersup will receive certificates.

The competition is an outgrowth of the Highway Division's 3-E Program, and nominees will be judged on the basis of efficiency, economy and excellence.

Announcement of the winner for 1986 will be made at a dinner during National Transportation Week in May, where all the division's entrants in the competition will be honored.

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All the nominees and finalists from Highway Division competition for the 3-E award program are "winners."

That's the opinion of State Highway Engineer Larry Rulien.

"Being nominated is the main emphasis," he said. "All those people should feel good about being selected."

Nevertheless, Rulien and the three assistant state highway engineers will choose one statewide winner.

Martha Coulter, widow of the late state highway engineer, will present the first H. Scott Coulter Memorial Award to the winner.

Rulien said the same criteria used in regional selection, based on the words "efficiency," "economy"

and "excellence," will be applied to the selection of the winner.

He said he is pleased with the results of the new program. "I've detected a reasonable amount of enthusiasm statewide for the program. Each region chose and recognized nominees in its own style."

Besides recognition of individual employees, the program has produced other benefits. "I see evidence of people applying the 3-E principles to make changes or improvements," he said.

The 12 finalists are (management nominee followed by nonmanagement nominee):

### Region 1

William Stark, extra gang supervisor; Jon Cole, maintenance repair worker, both Portland.

### Region 2

Loyd Gatliff, highway maintenance supervisor (HMS); Michael "Tony" Mandich, highway engineer, both Corvallis.

### Region 3

Jim King, HMS; Mark Grinde, highway maintenance worker, both Grants Pass.

### Region 4

David Neys, highway maintenance foreman, Moro; Patty Jo Waters, engineering technician, Bend.

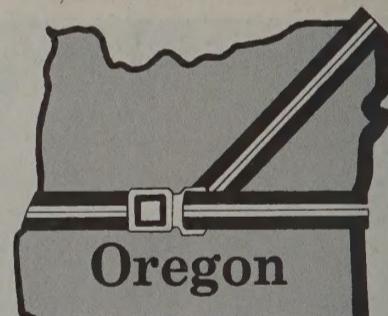
### Region 5

Joe Schlieski, project manager; Roger Lang, federal aid specialist, both La Grande.

### Headquarters

Cam Gilmour, Environmental Section manager; Fran Weaver, Contractor Plans Unit, both Salem.

## BUCKLE UP



**BUCKLE-UP WEEK**--ODOT will promote Safety Belt Awareness Week in Oregon with information to employees and Oregonians. The event runs May 5-11.

## Aviation fees down slightly during 1985

Aeronautics Division aviation user fees for calendar year 1985 were down about one percent compared to 1984.

However, the first three months of 1986 show a strong increase.

While aviation fuel tax receipts for 1985 were up slightly, aircraft registration fees were down 16 percent.

In contrast to 1985, aviation fuel tax receipts for the first three months of 1986 are up 21 percent over the same period a year ago. Revenues from all state aviation user fees were up nearly eight percent over the first three months of 1985.

"We hope this trend will continue and will signal an upswing in aviation activity in Oregon," said Roger Ritchey, deputy administrator.

## Retirees invited to return to work

ODOT's busy season is approaching, and there are several opportunities for retired employees to come back and help out.

An article in last November's VIA summarized some of the jobs held by retired employees during 1985.

Highway retirees managed projects, tested construction materials and trained employees who were new in a position.

"As the population decline continues, retirees may be recruited more and more to rejoin the work force temporarily," said Dale Beach, personnel analyst.

He encouraged any retirees interested in working to contact their former supervisor or Beach at 378-2433.



**BLASTED ROCK**--Highway crews in District 8 blasted a rock outcropping recently to widen a spot on Hwy. 66 between Ashland and Klamath Falls. At left, Thad Bedingfield prepares to place charges of dynamite in holes bored in the rock. The work was in preparation for an overlay project this summer.



# ODOT to lead statewide cleanup campaign

"Company's Coming" has been set as the theme of a campaign to encourage Oregonians to clean up the state in preparation for millions of travelers heading for Expo 86.

Gov. Vic Atiyeh has asked ODOT to develop the campaign and to step up department activities that affect tourists.

"Oregon needs to be seen at her best. These travelers are potential vacationers in this state if they like what they see," said Atiyeh in declaring May "Company's Coming Month."

The governor threw himself into the project in late April by picking up litter with a crew near Salem.

ODOT hopes to get other Oregonians to do the same later this month.

The Parks Division has planned a beach cleanup drive, using staff and

volunteers, on the entire length of the coast on Memorial Weekend. The "Company's Coming" theme was originally developed for that effort, but the slogan was given to the larger campaign.

The Highway Division will launch a cleanup drive, primarily using students, to pick up litter along Hwy. 101.

A separate litter pickup effort is planned in the Portland area, and Highway will make an effort to get litter patrol crews out early on the state's freeways.

In addition, special maintenance of the rest areas along I-5 will be undertaken throughout the summer.

ODOT Public Affairs will produce radio announcements and newspaper ads promoting the cleanup theme.



**LITTER-AL CLEANUP**--Abigail Cease, highway maintenance worker 2, spruces up the landscape along I-205. Oregonians will be asked to help clean the state's highways and beaches later this month in a "Company's Coming" campaign.

## Scholars fund

Continued from...Page 1

Thirty-one graduating high school seniors have applied for the two scholarships that will be awarded in May.

The Oregon Scholarship Commission will rank the applicants and recommend several--probably less than a half dozen--for personal interviews by the selection committee in early May.

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State Highway Engineer Larry Rulien gave \$501 this year, just so he could say he had given more than Fred Miller and Gary Potter,

who only contributed \$500 each.

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The crew of the Bend shops more than doubled last year's total contribution. In 1985, they donated \$500; this year, they gave over \$1,100. Their drive coordinator was Karl Goshorn.

□ □ □

For many, the highlight of this year's drive was the ODOT Bowling Tournament, organized by DMV's Brenda and Bob Trump. It was a huge success, with 240 bowlers participating, and \$1,476 raised for the scholarship fund.

ODOT has produced a videotape interview with Patricia Wiegert, director of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

The 33-minute production was a joint project of the Highway Division and ODOT Public Affairs.

On the videotape, Wiegert is questioned about PERS procedures and laws by three Highway employees who are nearing retirement. They are Ed Hunter, assistant state highway engineer; Ed Hardt, Region 1 engineer; and Anita

Butler, Program Section office manager.

Hunter conceived the idea for the videotape after he discovered that very few of the division employees he talked with had much knowledge of how PERS worked or what options they faced in determining their retirement income.

Copies of the videotape will be made available to Highway employees through the regular distribution system for "ODOT Update."

## PERS retirement options discussed in new video

### 5 and 10 Years Ago

MAY 1976

- A four-page tabloid describing the proposed I-205 corridor was to be delivered to residents of four counties in May 9 newspapers. The 9.2-mile corridor linked I-205 at the Lewis and Clark Highway in Washington with I-205 at Foster Road in Oregon.

- Other articles included: Opening of the Frenchglen Hotel by the Parks Division; announcement of a new design for driver licenses that featured a photo of the driver; and promotion of Gene Huntley to administrative assistant to Fred Klaboe.

MAY 1981

- Forecasting cutbacks in federal funds from the Reagan administration and continued inflation, the Highway Division prepared to reduce its work force.

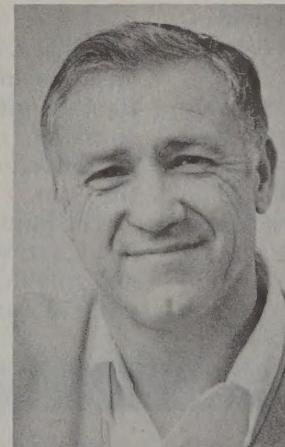
- DMV officials reported that a new field office in the Clackamas Town Center in Portland had been enthusiastically received by local residents since its March opening.

- Gov. Vic Atiyeh was scheduled as dedication speaker to memorialize efforts of Glenn Jackson in helping to establish Tryon Creek State Park.

## Oregonians help plan research project



Gordon Beecroft



Jim Wilson



Don Adams

Oregon has been well represented in committees putting together a gigantic, nationwide, transportation research study.

The Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP) is intended to reverse a trend of declining highway research funding. The program would commit \$150 million for transportation studies over five years.

The research will focus on six subjects. During the past year, subcommittees have met to plan research within the specific topics.

Oregon had representatives on four subcommittees: asphalt characteristics--Jim Wilson, assistant materials engineer; pavement performance--Dr. Gary Hicks, OSU professor; maintenance effectiveness--Don Adams, maintenance engineer; and bridge deck protection--Gordon Beecroft, retired research engineer.

### Consultants to do research

The other subcommittee topics were cement and concrete characteristics, and chemical control of snow and ice.

Wilson's 30-member group met four times between May and October. He said Oregon will benefit from the asphalt research. "We could get asphalt with a longer performance life," he said.

Adams said the maintenance subcommittee focused on activities directly related to pavement preservation. Subtopics include safer

and faster equipment and materials; cost effective procedures; and worker safety and training.

Research Engineer Bob Blensly said consultants will probably be hired to conduct the actual research.

Every state will contribute to the study. The funding proposal calls for taking the \$150 million off the top of annual federal aid highway payments to states. Oregon's share of the bill would be about \$1.5 million.

Some states would also monitor research projects over a long period of time, he said.

Most Oregon pavements are asphalt, so the state could benefit from the asphalt characteristics and pavement performance studies, Blensly said.

However, Oregon stands to gain

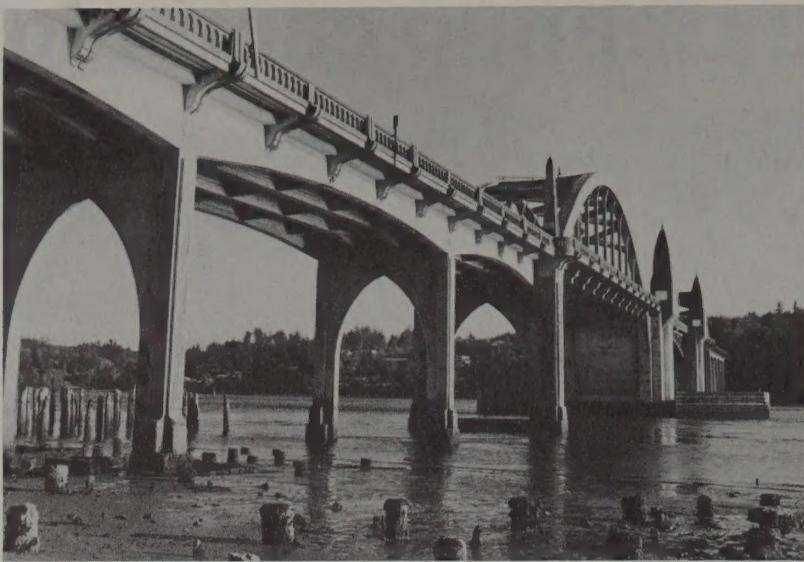
useful information from all SHRP results, as do other states, he added.

"There is a high return on research investment for improving highway conditions," he said.

Nationally that investment has declined steadily since 1973. In terms of 1982 dollars, U.S. highway research funding has dropped from \$111 million in 1973 to \$56 million in 1982.

Only .15 percent of gross expenditures for highways are invested in research and development. High tech industries return six percent of gross revenue to research, and most manufacturers devote three percent of gross income to research.

If Congress approves funding in the 1986 session, active research could begin as early as October.



**BIRTHDAY BRIDGE**--The Siuslaw Bridge is one of five Oregon coastal bridges reaching the half-century mark this summer. All were designed by Highway's legendary bridge engineer Conde McCullough. The Highway Division worked with local communities to help them incorporate birthday observances into local celebrations this summer.

## Employees seek classes on stress management

### Feeling stressed?

You're not alone among ODOT employees. Employee Development Manager Bob Whipps said increased interest in the topic by employees has caused the section to increase its offerings.

A one-day session will be held this year, and two are planned for 1987. If interest continues, others may be added, Whipps said.

"Enough people have signed up to fill most of the courses we're planning," Whipps said. He

believes the increased interest is due to people being more aware of the relationship between health and productivity and the general interest in wellness in our society.

"The department has provided information to sensitize people to the effects of stress," Whipps said.

For example, Bud Van Cleave, Construction Section, added a portion on stress management to annual training provided to inspectors. He said the information was well received by participants.

## Steps cut cancer risk

This year's Cancer Crusade will emphasize lifestyle and environmental factors that may be cancer-related.

ODOT employees will receive brochures reminding them that they can reduce their own cancer risk by taking control of things in their daily lives, said Ken Evert, ODOT coordinator of the annual state employee fund drive for the American Cancer Society.

One brochure gives 10 steps for people to follow for lowering their risk of several types of cancer. Suggestions include changing eating habits, controlling weight, stopping smoking, reducing alcohol consumption and avoiding exposure to the sun.

The fund drive runs through May 30. Last year's crusade raised almost \$43,000 from state employees, Evert said.

## Safety awards

**Region 1 Right-of-Way**; Kenneth Rolfe, supervisor; 400,000 hours.

**Rooster Rock Park District**; Frank Arnold, supervisor; 100,000 hours.

**Engineering Crew**; E. J. Dunn, supervisor; 400,000 hours.

**Engineering Crew**; Bill Piete, supervisor; 350,000 hours.

**Drain Maintenance**; Bruce Harrell, supervisor; 100,000 hours.

**Engineering Crew**; Herbert E. Shaw, supervisor; 300,000 hours.

**La Grande Weighmasters**; Bob Waldher, supervisor; 6 years.

**La Grande Sign Crew**; Harold Dowdy, supervisor; 6 years. Central Point Maintenance; Carl Winfrey, supervisor; 50,000 hours.

**Pendleton Electrical**; C. Baker, supervisor; 50,000 hours.

**La Grande Bridge**; Marion Crow, supervisor; 12 years.

**Engineering Crew**; Ken Stoneman, supervisor; 150,000 hours.

**Emigrant Springs**; L. Swartout, supervisor, 12 years.

**Salem Truck Shop**; Terry Bonn, supervisor; 500,000 hours.

**Ashland Maintenance**; Curt Yocham, supervisor; 150,000 hours.

**McKenzie Bridge Maintenance**; William James, Jr., supervisor; 50,000 hours.

**Engineering Crew**; Arvey Nelson, supervisor; 300,000 hours.

**Engineering Crew**; James McNamee, supervisor; 250,000 hours.

## Retirements

**Richard D. Nelson**, highway maintenance worker 2, Corvallis, retired in March with nine years of service.

**Mildred E. Peterson**, Highway administrative assistant, Salem, retired in April after 33 years with the division.

**Robert C. Beard**, highway maintenance worker 3, Turner, retired in

## Moving up

## Moving up

## Highway Division

**Donald Adams**, supervising highway engineer (SHE) F to SHE G, Salem.

**Kenneth Allmer**, SHE B to SHE C, Coos Bay.

**Ernest Andrews**, highway maintenance worker (HMW) 2 to HMW 3, Lake County.

**David Austin**, HMW 2 to HMW 3, Wasco County.

**Paul Burns**, highway engineer (HE) 3 to HE 4, Salem.

**Roger Derrick**, HMW 2 to HMW 3, Austin.

**Gregory Dimit**, highway maintenance foreman (HMF) 2 to highway maintenance supervisor (HMS) D, Coos Bay.

**Ginney Etherton**, engineering aide (EA) to engineering technician (ET) 1, Coquille.

**Richard Galbreath**, HMW 3 to HMF 1, John Day.

**Daniel Gibb**, HMW 3 to lead electrician, Milwaukie.

**Robert Heard**, HE 3 to SHE B, Portland.

**Robert Heckman**, HE 1 to highway maintenance office manager, The Dalles.

**Sandra Heuberger**, EA to ET 1, Eugene.

**Thomas Jenkins**, HE 1 to HE 2, Salem.

**Samuel Kerns**, HMW 2 to HMF 1, Portland.

**James King**, HMF 1 to HMS B, Ukiah.

**Charles Lamb**, HMF 1 to HMS B, Estacada.

**John Lucas**, HE 1 to HE 2, Salem.

**Mary Martini**, HE 2 to HE 3, Salem.

**John Nelson**, HMF 1 to HMS A, Coos Bay.

**Danny Ryan**, HMS B to HMS C, Ontario.

**George Sackinger**, HE 2 to HE 3, Salem.

**Adolph Shartner**, HE 2 to HE 3, Milwaukie.

**John Smith**, ET 1 to ET 2, Eugene.

**Gregg Spooner**, heavy equipment mechanic to senior heavy equipment mechanic, Salem.

**Michael Struloeff**, HE 1 to HE 2, Portland.

**William Upton**, ET 1 to ET 2, Salem.

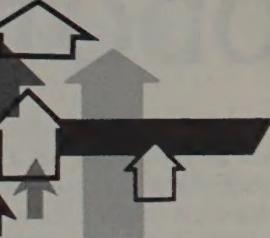
**Michael Wierleske**, HMW 2 to HMW 3, Jackson County.

**Vernon Williams**, HMF 1 to HMS B, Richland.

**Thomas Williamson**, HMF 1 to HMS C, La Grande.

**James Wills**, HMW 2 to HMW 3, Curry County.

**Gary Winslow**, HMW 2 to HMF 1, Condon.



Vernon Williams



Sandra Heuberger



Samuel Kerns

## Motor Vehicles Division

**Evelyn McGuire**, clerical assistant to data entry operator, Salem.

## Parks Division

**Steven Wiemeyer**, park manager C to program executive A, Deschutes.

## Suggestions

**Russell Pinard**, highway engineer, Salem, was awarded a certificate for developing an office procedure to determine a field survey error.

**Julie Evey**, asst. transportation permit supervisor, Salem, received a paperweight as the final award for a suggestion about the handling of paycheck garnishments.

**Floyd Fanning**, highway maintenance foreman, and **Dennis Edwards**, highway maintenance worker 4, both Milwaukie, were presented desk pen sets as final

awards for a joint suggestion for removing styrofoam from bridge joints.

**Samuel Johnston**, Traffic Section, Salem, received a certificate for his suggestion concerning warning of construction and maintenance work in bicycle parking areas.

**Julius Sevey**, Right-of-Way Section, Salem, received a certificate for his idea to use a right of entry instead of an easement.

**Frank Stevens**, highway maintenance worker 3, Prospect, received a plaque and \$75 check as the final awards for a suggestion concerning the design for mounting a spare tire to snowblowers.

**Tom Bricher**, highway engineer, Salem, received a paperweight as the final award for a suggestion to use a standard area table to determine concrete driveway quantities.

**Susan Forkner**, clerical assistant, Salem, received a paperweight as the final award for her suggestion to identify field revolving fund checks.

# On the job with Ed Wilson

By Monte Turner  
Managing Editor

Ed Wilson towers above most people in many ways.

Clearly, the 6'7" electrician helper in Highway's Region 1 stands out in any crowd.

The 37-year-old has been tall since high school. At 6'6" he was recruited to play basketball by the high school coach despite no real interest in the sport.

Right after graduation from the school in Oakland, CA, he started a job that took him to greater heights. He worked for a Bay Area window cleaning firm specializing in high-rises.

Even then, he clearly exhibited the strong work ethic that puts him head and shoulders above many other people. He remembers completing a 26-story building so fast that the building superintendent gave him a \$10 tip.

Money still motivates him. "The more I make, the harder I'll work," he says.

Soon he was named foreman of a crew. At the same time, he attended community college.

When he was 22, Ed moved his wife and two young children to Portland. The move followed a visit with his father who had lived there a number of years.

He stayed in college and worked full-time for a remodeling contractor.

During seven years with the firm, Ed completed several jobs for Region 1 of the Highway Division. One day Mike Stovall, who was region maintenance engineer, told him that the division needed good workers and encouraged him to apply for a highway maintenance worker (HMW) 1 position.

Although Ed took a pay cut, he saw the switch as a chance for a

professional career. He started with Highway in 1982, was promoted to HMW 3 in 18 months and later served as street boss for an extra gang.

He says the work was "challenging, exciting and rewarding."

He also terms the working conditions as fair. "As far as I can see,

## 'The more I make, the harder I'll work.'

being black has had no impact on me," and race has never been an issue in any working relationships, he says. Although he supports the concept of affirmative action, he also looks forward to the day "when it won't be needed."

Early in his Highway career, the ambitious young man decided "if I

was going to work permanently for the division, I might as well get the best pay."

He checked salaries and saw that electricians were at the top. He started taking electrical courses at Portland Community College and in 1984 moved into his current job.

Ed has continued with related college classes. He doesn't even give himself a break from school. He'll take at least one summer class, probably algebra.

"I tend to get dull if I'm not in school," he says. He's convinced that his college work helped him get onto the electrical crew.

"My advice to anyone who wants to get ahead is, 'Go to school, even if only one night a week,'" he says, waving his large hands expressively as he talks.

After he advances to an electrician position, Ed will still be in school. His long-term goal is to become an electrical engineer, he says, a look of determination showing in his dark-brown eyes.

When he reaches that goal he expects to continue taking classes. "It's a good pastime. You never stop learning," he says.

Classes and work leave little time for other interests. Now divorced, he lives in Troutdale. He uses his electrical and carpenter skills to work around his house and do repairs for friends and neighbors.

He likes plays and movies and also enjoys golf and fishing. He's a past master of the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, a black affiliate of the Masons.

He misses having time to lift weights at a fitness center, but adds quickly that he isn't overly anxious for this phase of his career to end.

"It's a matter of discipline and priorities," he says. "You need a sense of discipline to get everything done in

your life that you want." Through-out his life, he has motivated and disciplined himself.

"When I started the window-washing job, I psyched myself out by telling myself that the heights wouldn't bother me and that I could do the work," he says. Likewise, he mentally prepared himself for the challenges of the electrical trade.

The approach apparently has been successful. His supervisor, Floyd Stuk, calls him "an A-1 worker." "He's willing to learn. When I've observed him on the job, he's been on the move, and moving pretty fast," Stuk said. "We need more workers like him."

Ed says the favorite part of his work on the electrical crew is troubleshooting, which occupies a big share of a crew's time.

"When we get called because traffic signals are out, it's satisfying to hunt down the problem and see how quickly and safely we can fix it."

He doesn't refer to the safety aspect lightly. He says safety has to be a prime concern to any Highway worker--both for fellow employees and the public.

## 'I like to work hard, finish a job, and come in tired.'

He's been in a couple of traffic accidents and has been shocked several times. "It's part of the job working in these conditions, but you take precautions that prevent serious injury," he says.

He thinks his high-rise job taught him to follow instructions and work "by the book"--invaluable skills in his current position.

He credits his mother, who worked as a nurse when he was growing up, with giving him another important attitude. "She always said: 'Finish any job you start.'"

All his Highway assignments have given him a feeling of accomplishment. "I like to work hard, finish a job, and come in tired. Then I can go home and not worry about someone being hurt because of something I didn't do," he says.

"It's a good feeling to fix something and keep the public moving."



**CLIMBER**--Ed Wilson climbs a ladder inside the I-205 bridge near Oregon City. He's also climbing a career ladder within ODOT, aiming to become an electrician.

## Retirees report

**Dorland "Buzz" Swan, Salem, ret. HWY supervising highway engineer, 1983.**

"I never have a day when I wonder 'What will I do today?'" Buzz reports. He keeps busy with varied activities.

He volunteers on the Elks' scholarship committee and for the March on Birth Defects. He also has served as a consulting engineer on property development projects on the coast and in Salem.

Hobbies include backpacking, fishing and water skiing.

Buzz and his wife, Carol, traveled to Great Britain, and he attended a reunion in Ohio. They

like to travel around the state, too, he says.

One of Buzz's three sons, Mike, is a Highway employee in the Final Design Unit.

**Ollie Sacre, Salem, ret. highway engineer, 1981.**

Ollie and his wife, Jean, use their hobby of collecting coins and glassware as an excuse to travel to flea markets as far away as Medford and Seattle.

Even when home, they're often out scouting for treasures. Ollie also keeps busy with yard work.

Ollie and his father were both long-term Highway employees.

Ollie worked 29 years and his father, a cabinetmaker, worked 34 years.

**Ben Gifford, Salem, ret. program and scheduling engineer, 1982.**

Ben's dream house, which he started building in 1983 in Hawaii, is now liveable. He has done most of the work himself, except for help from friends at the beginning.



Ben has spent two or three months each year working on the project, shipping nearly all the material from the mainland. The house has been a long-term goal--his daughter, who lived in Hawaii at the time, picked out the lot 13 years ago.

He and his wife, Beth, plan to establish residency in Sisters with a mobile home, then split their time between Oregon and Hawaii. Last summer they toured the West in a motorhome with their three grandchildren.

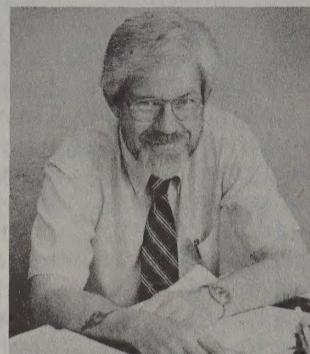
Ben is a second-generation Highway employee. His father was the first division photographer.

# CANDID COMMENTS

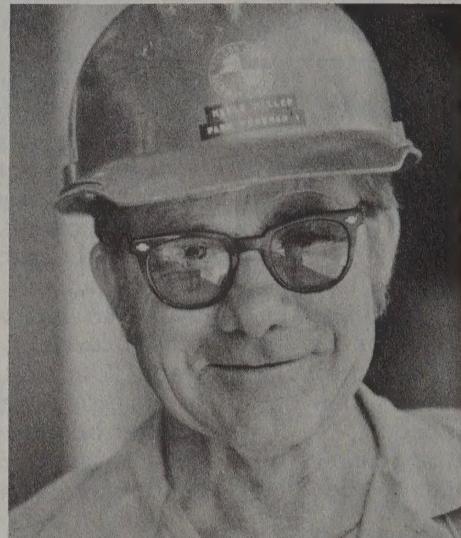
In conjunction with National Transportation Week this month, ODOT employees were asked:

**Do you feel the public understands the importance of transportation in society?**

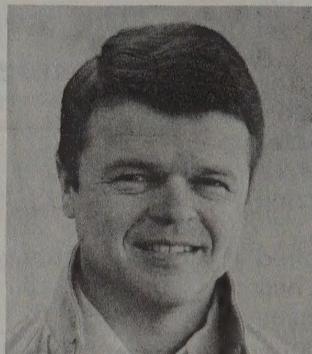
Dave Willhite, HWY  
Dist. 2A Maintenance  
Supervisor  
Sylvan



Lee LaFontaine, PT  
Transportation Planner  
Salem



Merle Miller  
Park Manager A  
La Grande



William Anhorn, HWY  
Region 2 Engineer  
Salem

Monica Majeski, CS  
Safety Secretary  
Salem



## Dave Willhite

Yes. They might not be aware of the total picture, but their lives evolve around transportation, and they are very aware of their personal needs.

## Lee LaFontaine

No. People view transportation almost exclusively as a source of mobility. However, they largely overlook its effects on land use, the environment and our economy. In a service economy dominated by telecommunications and computers, the latter effects may well be more significant to society than mobility.



Ramona Cline,  
HWY  
District 5  
Office Manager  
Eugene



Lyle "Hoot" Gibson, HWY  
HMW 3  
Bend

## Ramona Cline

Many do, but most realize the importance only as it affects their daily routines. They often do not realize the total picture.

## Lyle 'Hoot' Gibson

I think that most people understand the importance and like the work that the Department of Transportation does. I've heard few complaints during the 27 years that I've worked for Highway.

## Merle Miller

Transportation today has become such a way of life that few people understand what is involved in keeping the highways maintained. Speaking from the standpoint of the parks, people used to vacation at the nearest mountains. Now they travel for thousands of miles.

## William Anhorn

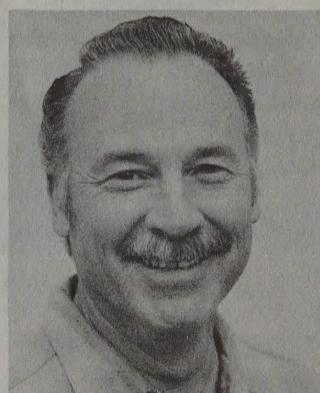
Based on the testimony we just heard at recent Six-Year Highway Improvement Program meetings, I would say that every community in this region feels that improved transportation has become increasingly important to them, both to maintain their existing economic activity and to attract new economic development.

## Monica Majeski

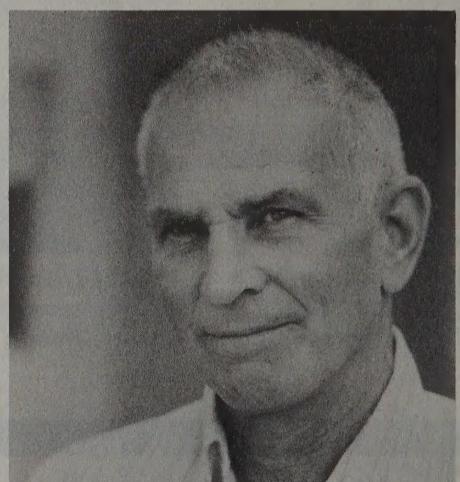
Transportation, like most conveniences in modern society, is pretty much taken for granted. If one takes the time to calculate the whole impact of transportation--getting produce to the marketplace; providing materials for construction; taking people to the workplace, to vacation spots, to the peace table; providing a livelihood for many, many people--yes, I believe the public is aware of and understands the importance of transportation in society.



Connie Brinton, HWY  
Engineering Aide  
Ontario



Richard Herrod, HWY  
HMW 2  
Portland



Dick Nieth, DMV  
Office Manager  
Enterprise

## Connie Brinton

Yes. I feel that most people realize that they wouldn't have nearly as many choices in many areas of life such as work, recreation, food or medical facilities if it weren't for the various modes of transportation available to them today. Transportation is really a life line to many people.

## Richard Herrod

No. I believe that people do not realize that the trucking industry brings them their commodities, and trains bring produce from the East--not to mention the bus lines that take them all over the United States and airplanes that deliver the mail throughout the world.

## Dick Nieth

I don't think the public gives it a second thought. When asked, they know trucks deliver their goods and groceries. But I don't think they consider it until they are asked to do without.